



CALIFORNIA ARTS COUNCIL

CELEBRATING 21 YEARS OF
EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS:
1976 - 1997

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Press Release

California Arts Council to receive \$886,600 partnership grant from National Endowment for the Arts in 1998

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 24, 1998

SAN DIEGO: The California Arts Council is pleased to announce that it will be receiving a \$886,600 partnership grant from the National Endowment for the Arts in 1998.

In a **press conference** to be held Friday, **April 24, 1998 at 9:30 a.m.** at Axline Court, Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, 700 Prospect Street, La Jolla, the National Endowment for the Arts will announce this grant to the California Arts Council and, in a move to promote the arts in the San Diego area, will also announce that six new grants totaling \$600,000 will be awarded to five San Diego institutions in 1998. The five San Diego organizations honored by NEA grants in 1998 are the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture (\$100,000); Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego (\$350,000); Museum of Photographic Arts (\$30,000); San Diego Opera (\$30,000); and San Diego Repertory Theatre (\$65,000 and \$25,000).

The grants to these six San Diego organizations are among the 117 grants totaling \$4,787,300 awarded to California arts organizations by the NEA this year. Among those 117 grants, the California Arts Council's \$886,600 grant, awarded under the NEA's "Partnership" category, will augment the California Arts Council's efforts in working with its grantees throughout the state in arts education programs. These NEA funds also assist the Arts Council's funding of arts programs directed to under-served communities. The NEA funds support grantmaking and grant programs of the California Arts Council.

"We are very pleased to have the financial support of the NEA this year. Without the funds it provides, we would not be able to provide the same level of support to the valuable work in arts education that many of our grantees are doing throughout the state," states Barbara Pieper, Director of the California Arts Council.

The California Arts Council will issue a press release on April 29, 1998 listing all of the NEA's awards to California arts organizations.

The **National Endowment for the Arts** is the federal grantmaking agency that Congress created to support the visual, literary, design and performing arts, to benefit all Americans. The NEA's mission is to foster the excellence, diversity and vitality of the arts in the United States, and to broaden public access to the arts.

The **California Arts Council**, a state agency established in 1976, promotes artistic awareness and participation in California. The California Arts Council's mission is to promote the arts and serve the people of California. The Arts Council provides technical assistance and grants to artists and nonprofit organizations. Applications are reviewed and rated at public meetings by outside professional peer panels and receive final approval from the appointed 11-member Council. Arts Council members include: James L. Loper, Ph.D., Chair; Dea Spanos Berberian; Edward C. Cazier, Jr.; Iris R. Dart; Doris Fisher; Barbara George; Tom Hall; Hugh Hewitt; Janet Karatz; David C. Lizarraga; and A.C. Lyles.

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